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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/832,844	04/12/2001	Shunpei Yamazaki	740756-2288	2849
31780	7590	02/25/2005	EXAMINER	
ERIC ROBINSON PMB 955 21010 SOUTHBANK ST. POTOMAC FALLS, VA 20165			TRAN, MINH LOAN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2826	

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.F.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/832,844	<b>Applicant(s)</b> YAMAZAKI, SHUNPEI	
	<b>Examiner</b> Minh-Loan T. Tran	<b>Art Unit</b> 2826	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-18 and 26-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7-18, 26-32, 35, 36 and 39-54 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33, 34, 37 and 38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/29/04; 10/15/04; 6/17/04</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/20/2004 has been entered.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

2. The information disclosure statements filed 10/29/04, 10/15/04, 06/17/04 have been considered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. Claims 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 37 and 38 are redundant of claims 33 and 34.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 33, 34, 37, 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takashi (JP 02-27320).

Figures 1-3 of Takashi disclose a liquid crystal display device comprising an insulating substrate 1; a plurality of first lines extending in a first direction over the substrate 1; a plurality of second lines extending across the first lines over the substrate 1; a plurality of pixels defined by the first lines and second lines in the region 4; a plurality of pixel electrodes provided at the pixels (figure 3); a plurality of switching elements provided at the pixels, each of the switching elements comprising at least one first thin film transistor wherein a gate electrode 7 of the first thin film transistor is electrically connected to one of the plurality of first lines (figure 3); an interlayer insulating film 8 formed over the plurality of switching element wherein the pixel electrodes are provided over the interlayer insulating film 8 (lines 15, 16 on page 4 of the English translation); a first gate driver circuit 2 formed over the substrate 1 and electrically connected to the plurality of first line (figure 3), the first gate driver circuit 2 comprising a plurality of second thin film transistors; a second driver circuit 3 comprising an IC chip electrically connected to the plurality of second lines.

Takashi does not disclose the interlayer insulating film comprises of resin. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to form the interlayer insulating film of Takashi's device comprises of resin because such material is conventional in the art for forming the interlayer insulating film or the passivation film for the thin film transistors.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 7-18, 26-32, 35, 36, 39-54 are allowable over the references of record because none of these references disclose or can be combined to yield the claimed invention such as a plurality of switching elements provided at the pixels, each of the switching elements comprising a first thin film transistor; a driver circuit comprising a plurality of second thin film transistors; wherein all of the first thin film transistors and the second thin film transistors are NTFTs or PTFTs.

***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh-Loan T. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1922. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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02/2005



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Art Unit 2826